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1989/06/12

TOP SECRET/EXDIS JUNE 12, 1989

EXCISE

1. CHINA: FANG LIZHI AS SCAPEGOAT

THE CHINESE PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU HAS ISSUED AN ARREST WARRANT FOR DISSIDENT SCIENTIST FANG LIZHI AND HIS WIFE, ACCORDING TO EMBASSY BEIJING AND PRESS REPORTS, AND HAS INTENSIFIED ITS VILIFICATION OF FANG AND VOA IN OFFICIAL FANG IS ACCUSED OF SPREADING "COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY PRESS. PROPAGANDA." TELEVISION AND RADIO CONTINUE TO BROADCAST "LETTERS" ALLEGEDLY FROM COMMON CITIZENS DENOUNCING FANG AS A "CRIMINAL" AND "TRAITOR" AND ACCUSING VOA OF LYING AND EXAGGERATION IN ITS REPORTS ON THE JUNE 3 MASSACRE. CHINESE MEDIA ALSO CONTINUE TO PUBLICIZE THE OFFICIAL VIEW OF RECENT EVENTS AND THE ARREST OF NUMEROUS PROTEST LEADERS AND RIOT PARTICIPANTS. THOSE ARRESTED INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE HONG KONG RESIDENT WHO HAS BEEN STUDYING IN CHINA; HE WAS SEIZED WHILE IN THE COMPANY OF A BRITISH DIPLOMAT.

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IS/FPC/CDR

SHANGHAI

AUTHORITIES EXPELLED A FOREIGN JOURNALIST OVER THE WEEKEND FOR REPORTING WHILE ON A TOURIST VISA, AND ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WILL ENFORCE REGULATIONS REQUIRING TEN DAYS NOTICE AND PRIOR APPROVAL FOR JOURNALISTS TO TRAVEL AND REPORT OUTSIDE BEIJING. TWO CHINESE DIPLOMATS IN THE UNITED STATES YESTERDAY ANNOUNCED THAT THEY HAD ASKED FOR

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TOP SECRET/EXDIS POLITICAL ASYLUM. THE MILITARY HAS BEGIN TO ASSUME A GOWER PROFILE. SCORES OF TANKS AND ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM TIANANMEN SQUARE AND ALL ROADBLOCKS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN REMOVED EMBASSY BEIJING DI and YESTERDAY REPORTED BEING ABLE TO DRIVE ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF THE SQUARE FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE LAST WEEKEND'S MASSACRE; THE SQUARE MAY SOON BE REOPENED TO THE PUBLIC. BUT THAT THOUSANDS OF TROOPS REMAIN ON BIAS A HIGH STATE OF ALERT, ALTHOUGH GENERALLY OUT OF VIEW, IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE CITY, AND CONTINUE TO MAN A NUMBER OF CHECKPOINTS. [TOP SECRE! NOFORN]